

# Connecting with mysql

This guide explains how to connect to a MySQL database using the `mysql` command-line tool. It walks through the necessary setup, connection process, and execution of a simple SQL query.

## Variables

To connect to a MySQL database, you will need the following individual connection parameters. These are available on the Elestio service overview page:

Variable	Description	Purpose
<code>USER</code>	MySQL username	Identifies the database user.
<code>PASSWORD</code>	MySQL password	Authenticates the user.
<code>HOST</code>	MySQL host address	Endpoint to connect to the database service.
<code>PORT</code>	MySQL port number	Default is usually 3306, unless otherwise configured.
<code>DATABASE</code>	Database name	The specific database you want to connect to.

You can find all of these values in your Elestio project dashboard under the **Admin** or **Database Info** section.

## Prerequisites

Make sure the MySQL client is installed on your local system. If not, download and install it from:

<https://dev.mysql.com/downloads/>

## Connecting to MySQL

Open your terminal and run the following command to connect to the MySQL database using the values you copied from your Elestio service:

```
mysql -h HOST -P PORT -u USER -p DATABASE
```

- Replace `HOST`, `PORT`, `USER`, and `DATABASE` with the actual values.
- After running the command, you will be prompted to enter the `PASSWORD`.

If the connection is successful, you will see output similar to this:

```
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 18
Server version: 8.0.34 MySQL Community Server - GPL

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql>
```

## Verifying the Connection

To ensure you're connected correctly, run the following command in the MySQL prompt:

```
SELECT VERSION();
```

You should see output like this:

```
+-----+
| version() |
+-----+
| 8.0.34   |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

This confirms that your connection to the Elestio-hosted MySQL service is working correctly.

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